

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Claim 21 has been amended to recite the presence of inorganic abrasive particles. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 16.

New claim 23 finds support on page 8, line 23 of the specification.

No new matter has been added by way of the amendment to the claims.

Early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

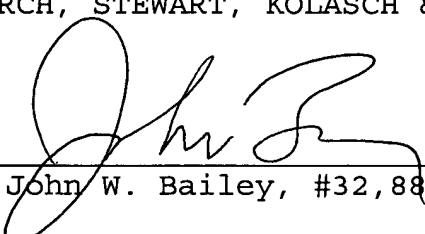
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq., (Reg. No. 43,575) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.


Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


John W. Bailey, #32,881

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000


JWB/GMD/bmp/mua
2993-0115P